Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the first paragraph on page 9 of the application as follows:

four rows of functional keys 150 placed closes to the user. These central keys are easy for thumbs to operate, further reduces the possibility of injury. It is understood that these modifying and functional keys can be placed in a variety of ways, and this particular arrangement is for illustration purposes only. The dedicated function keys common to a conventional keypad, such as TAB, CTRL, and the like, can be optionally grouped on both sides of the central keys as key groups 160 and 170.

Please amend the last paragraph on page 12 of the application as follows:

FIG. 7 presents a cross-sectional view of the keyboard assembly. Underneath the plastic cap of each key on the keyboard is a plunger 700 which pierces through the upper surface 105, outer shell 205, inner shell 710, and makes electrical contact through contact bubble 780. Electrical data is then transferred from contact bubble 780 through wire 790 into a processor 730 for processing. The keyboard assembly of this invention may also incorporate additional elements, such as a trackball 795 or a mouse, as shown here. In one implementation, a standard thumb-operated optical trackball using commercially available optical technology can be used for superior precision and accuracy. As shown in FIG. 7, mouse sensor 720, such as infrared cordless sensor, is installed at the bottom